

C O P Y

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6 June 1946

SUBJECT: Psychological Warfare

1. The Problem:

a. The Secretary, NIA, forwarded to the Central Planning Staff at the suggestion of the Chief of Operational Services one copy of a "Report on Psychological Warfare in the Southwest Pacific Area 1944-1945." Colonel Fortier recommended that the report be used with a view to investigating the advisability of future planning for psychological warfare.

b. The report and forwarding papers are attached to the original of this Directive for use and filing by the Support Branch.

2. Discussion:

a. Colonel Fellers of GHQ, USAFPAAC, in forwarding the subject report, stated that in his opinion "psychological warfare is an essential implementation of military intelligence and must be studied thoroughly in peace time. -- It would be criminal neglect not to be prepared to exploit this field."

b. The report of the General Board, USFET, on "Psychological Warfare in the European Theater of Operations" states "even now no fixed place for psychological warfare in the Staff has been determined, ----." It states further "the nature of psychological warfare is political as well as military, and any decisions and directives could only be obtained through agencies representing the State Department of the United States or the foreign office of the United Kingdom; psychological warfare required liaison with the secret services agency of a quasi-military nature; with Allied government in exile; and with civilian commercial services." This report is available in the Policy and Review Branch reference file.

c. The psychological warfare organizations in both the European and Pacific theatres were not an integral part of the Intelligence Division. In both cases they were handled as a special staff function with close coordination with the Intelligence Division.

d. Army Regulation 10-15, subparagraph 8c (9) states "The Military Intelligence Division is specifically charged with the preparation of plans and policies and the supervision of - - (9) Army contribution to psychological warfare."

e. It is apparent that:

- (1) Psychological warfare continuity should be insured by coordinated study and planning in peacetime.

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- (2) The State Department, as well as the War and Navy Departments, should be considered in any such planning.
- (3) Psychological warfare is dependent in great measure on intelligence for its operations.
- (4) The responsibility for the psychological warfare function is not well defined.

3. Planning Requirement:

a. The Support Branch will undertake the study of this problem and will submit its recommendations in duplicate to the Chief, Central Planning Staff, and in one copy to the Policy and Review Branch.

b. Throughout this study, the Support Branch will consult as required with the other Branches of the Central Planning Staff, which will give appropriate assistance.

c. In the study of this problem the following points will be considered:

- (1) What is the relationship of psychological warfare to the intelligence function?
- (2) What agencies in the several departments should be responsible for the planning in this matter during peacetime?
- (3) What coordination is required and how should it be handled?
- (4) What further action, if any, is required of the CIG?

4. Deadline:

An informal progress report will be submitted on 2 July.

FOR THE ACTING CHIEF, CENTRAL PLANNING STAFF:

[Redacted Signature]

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Acting Deputy Chief, Central Planning Staff

1 Encl:

DF to CPS from Sec, NIA, dtd 5/27, w/1 encl - DF from Col Fortier to the Director, enclosing Report on Psychological Warfare in SW Pacific Area, 44-45. (with original only - to Support Branch).

DISTRIBUTION:

For Action:

Support Branch

For Information:

Director of C. I. (Sec, NIA)

Information

Intelligence

Policy and Review

Security

File - Psychological Warfare

File - Planning Directive 40

Suspense - 2 July

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REFERENCES:

ENCLOSURES:

Planning Directive
 No. 40
 Cy Ltr fr GHQ, USAFP
 dtd 17 May 46

_____ ACTION _____ DIRECT REPLY
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REMARKS: Subject: Status of Psychological Warfare Survey.

1. Planning Directive No. 40, attached as Tab A, designated the Support Branch to make a survey of the problem of psychological warfare in peacetime to ascertain the following:

- a. The relationship of psychological warfare to the intelligence function.
- b. What agencies in the several departments should be responsible for the planning in this matter during peacetime?
- c. What coordination is required and how should it be handled?
- d. What further action, if any, is required of the C.I.G.?

2. The Support Branch completed an informal survey of this problem in which representatives of State, War and Navy participated.

(Continue "Remarks" on back, if necessary)

(Over)

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3. Considerable attention is being given to the problem by non-intelligence agencies. The State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee appointed an ad hoc committee to study and recommend:

a. A peacetime organization for keeping psychological warfare in a ready-for-mobilization status;

b. A wartime psychological warfare organization; both organizations to be assigned such direction as will insure effective planning, coordination and implementation, particularly with respect to the integration of nationwide psychological warfare with military plans.

This ad hoc committee was established by SWNCC 304. A representative of the Support Branch made an informal request to Mr. William Stone, Department of State, steering member of the SWNCC ad hoc committee, that the preliminary report of the committee be brought to the attention of the Director of Central Intelligence.

4. Colonel Dana W. Johnston, Chief Propaganda Branch, WDGS, has proposed that this Branch be made a special staff division not responsible to the Director of Intelligence, WDGS, as provided at present by the War Department reorganization plan of 11 June 1946. This recommendation is now under study.

5. A study of the written reports of the European and Pacific Theaters as well as informal opinions of those interviewed (a majority of whom participated in World War II psychological warfare efforts) shows that the problem is of secondary rather than primary intelligence concern.

6. C.I.G.'s interest in this problem is based on the following reasons:

a. Historical development of psychological warfare activities in World War I and II which resulted in most cases in the growth of that activity under an intelligence structure.

b. The information aspects of the program inasmuch as intelligence units are required to furnish material for use in psychological warfare both in peacetime and wartime.

c. The security aspects of the psychological warfare program. The Central Intelligence Group has been given responsibility for the coordination of all matters affecting the security of intelligence sources, methods and operations related to the national security.

7. Continued liaison will be necessary to bring this project to conclusion. It is therefore recommended that the responsibilities under Planning Directive No. 40 be transferred to the Interdepartmental Coordinating & Planning Staff for the purpose of:

a. Insuring that the SWNCC ad hoc committee will submit to the Director of Central Intelligence a copy of the committee's preliminary report for comment.

b. Advising the Director of any further development of C.I.G. interest and directing the problem to the proper C.I.G. office for continuation.